PULLAN et al Appl. No. 10/617,709 October 22, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The above amendment has been made to add an Abstract of the Disclosure as attached to this response on a separate sheet. No new matter is entered.

Applicants await an early action on the merits. If the Examiner finds this case is not now in condition for allowance and believes that an interview prior to first action would be helpful in focusing and/or resolving issues, applicants request the Examiner to contact their representative at the telephone number listed below to arrange a telephonic or personal interview.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:

eonard C. Mitchard Reg. No. 29,009

LCM:lfm 1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor

Arlington, VA 22201-4714 Telephone: (703) 816-4000 Facsimile: (703) 816-4100